

HOUSE BILL 642

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C6
HB 1055/00 - W&M

2001 Regular Session
11r2177

By: **Delegates C. Davis, Barkley, Bohanan, Bozman, Conroy, Frush,
Giannetti, Harrison, Healey, Heller, Hixson, Howard, Kirk, Moe, Oaks,
Paige, Patterson, Phillips, Proctor, and Rudolph**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2001

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Horse Racing - Purse Fund Enhancement**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring that certain lottery revenues for a certain fiscal year be
4 distributed to a new special fund to be used only for certain purposes; requiring
5 that purses and bred funds be increased according to a certain formula;
6 requiring a certain payment from the special fund to a certain trust for the
7 purpose of providing certain benefits to certain thoroughbred jockeys; providing
8 for the effective date and termination of this Act; and generally relating to horse
9 racing in the State.

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
11 MARYLAND, That:

12 (a) Notwithstanding § 9-120 of the State Government Article, after
13 cumulative distributions of revenues from the State Lottery for fiscal year 2001 to the
14 General Fund under § 9-120(b)(1)(ii) of the State Government Article total
15 \$383,400,000, \$10,250,000 of the remaining revenue that would otherwise be paid to
16 the General Fund under § 9-120(b)(1)(ii) of the State Government Article shall be
17 distributed to a special fund that shall be created to be used only to increase purses at
18 harness racing tracks, mile thoroughbred tracks, and Timonium Race Course, to
19 supplement existing bred funds, and provide funds for benefits to thoroughbred
20 jockeys in accordance with this Act.

21 (b) If lottery revenues do not provide the \$10,250,000 for the purposes
22 specified in subsection (a) of this section, the Governor may request a deficiency
23 appropriation during the 2002 Session to make up the difference.

24 (c) In accordance with § 7-209 of the State Finance and Procurement Article,
25 the Governor by budgetary amendment shall allocate money from the special fund
26 created under subsection (a) of this section in the manner specified under subsections
27 (d) and (e) of this section.

28 (d) Except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, the amount credited to
29 the special fund created under subsection (a) of this section shall be used as follows:

1 (1) 11% to increase the bred funds to be allocated as follows:

2 (i) 70% to the Maryland-Bred Race Fund; and

3 (ii) 30% to the Maryland Standardbred Race Fund; and

4 (2) 89% to increase purses at harness racing tracks and thoroughbred
5 racing tracks to be allocated as follows:

6 (i) 70% to purses at the mile thoroughbred racing tracks and
7 Timonium; and

8 (ii) 30% to purses at the harness racing tracks which shall be
9 allocated 85% for Rosecroft Raceway and 15% for Ocean Downs.

10 (e) \$250,000 shall be paid from the special fund created under subsection (a)
11 of this section to the Health and Welfare Trust maintained by the Jockey's Guild, Inc.
12 for the purpose of providing health, disability, and retirement benefits to active,
13 disabled, or retired thoroughbred jockeys who are or have been regularly riding in the
14 State, and their dependents, in accordance with eligibility criteria established by the
15 State Racing Commission.

16 (f) All funds provided for purses and bred funds at harness racing tracks, mile
17 thoroughbred racing tracks, and Timonium Race Course by this Act shall be in
18 addition to and may not supplant:

19 (1) Amounts allocated for purses and bred funds under current
20 agreements between the harness racing tracks and the organization that represents a
21 majority of owners and trainers of standardbred horses in the State; and

22 (2) Amounts otherwise provided in statute for purses and bred funds at
23 mile thoroughbred racing tracks and Timonium Race Course.

24 (g) The purses shall be distributed at mile thoroughbred racetracks and
25 Timonium Race Course according to a formula determined by the State Racing
26 Commission in consultation with the racetrack licensees and the organization that
27 represents a majority of owners and trainers of thoroughbred horses in the State.

28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
29 June 1, 2001. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the
30 end of June 30, 2002, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this
31 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.